custom duty relating to Pharmaceuticals industry. This exercise is undertaken when proposals are received from various Associations of Pharmaceuticals Industry sector as well as indigenous manufacturers, and these proposals are examined in detail in consultation with the concerned departments and the recommendations are forwarded to Ministry of Finance for consideration/approval. The Ministry of Finance notify the appropriate slab of custom duty in the Official Gazette from time to time.

Inclusion of Tai-Ahoms in the S.T. List

2740. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum from some self-styled Tai-Ahom organisations from Assam demanding the inclusion of the Tai-Ahoms into the Scheduled Tribe List of the Constitution and also for creation of a Ahom State out of Assam;

(b) whether Government have enquired into the genuineness of the signatory organisations in the memorandum; if so, the details thereof; if not the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No Sir. However, representations have been received from various organisations/individuals for inclusion of Tai-Ahom community in Scheduled Tribe list of Assam.

(b) and (c) For inclusion of any community in the list of Scheduled Tribes, genuineness of the community, (and not the organisation/individual) is studied in consultation with the concerned State Government and other expert organisations. This proposal is being examined alongwith similar other proposals in the context of comprehensive revision of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes list.

Imposing fine by Supreme Court on Steel Plant

2741. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court of India has imposed fines on the Durgapur Steel Plant and the Indian Iron and Steel Company for not providing pollution control devices in time;

(b) if so, whether accountabilities and responsibilities have been fixed for these delays and the administrative, disciplinary, procedural and other action taken in this regard; and

(c) the other projects in SAIL plants, relating to pollution control devices, modernisation, rehabilitation, expansion etc. involving repeated time and cost overruns and the specific action taken to ensure timely completion of project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) *Durgapur Steel Plant*

At DSP, the main scheme under implementation covered by the Supreme Court case is installation of a Gas Cleaning Plant for the Twin Hearth Furnace. This is a scheme of retrofitting nature involving plant shut downs and being carried out in a restrictive space. The volume of job involved has achieved encouraging progress with respect to major civil jobs, structural/mechanical erection, equipment supply and the site was ready for erection by 15.11.1995. The time frame of November, 1995 could not be adhered to as the Contractor for Gas Cleaning Plan for the Twin Hearth Furnace, failed in getting the critical items from the suppliers. The suppliers of these items failed to maintain the schedule due to closure/strike of their works.

The fine imposed on DSP was due to